

EL PASO HERALD

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Election Results

WHILE LOCAL and state issues necessarily overshadowed national partisan issues in most of the state elections this year, still a strong swing one way or the other as compared with a preceding election is always taken, with much reason, as indicating a political trend that may have a bearing on national affairs later on; and some of the state results in this off-year are mighty interesting.

New York state shows a strong aggressive Republican organization, facing a somewhat dispirited Democracy. The Democratic state administration has not been a howling success, many of the great reforms that were promised have been effected, inevitable disappointments among the supporters of the victors have cooled the ardor of some, and the inevitable reaction, the swing of the pendulum past the center, is manifesting itself in the reduced Democratic pluralities in many districts of Greater New York, and Republican gains in Republican districts over the state.

In Massachusetts, governor Foss, elected governor last year ago as a Democrat in a normally Republican state, is re-elected by greatly decreased pluralities; which is unusual, for nonpartisan alignments are always favored by having no presidential or congressional elections on hand. This year, as it happened, national issues had considerable part in the campaign.

Kentucky has swung back into the Democratic column, and unless the national Democracy in 1912 nominates some impossible man like Bryan, Kentucky will be safely Democratic in the presidential election. The state may in fact be counted as normally Democratic, but ready to support the opposition when necessary to obtain better men in places of power, whether state or national.

In Ohio, the late Tom Johnson was dragged into the campaign by his partisans, and the man who stands for Tom Johnson's governmental policies was triumphantly elected, showing that he had at least a ghost of a show, thanks to the departed leader.

Maryland tried to disfranchise most of her negro population, and the effort seems to have failed.

In Kansas a Democrat succeeds a deceased Republican in congress; which shows at least that a live Democrat is regarded as more useful than a dead Republican.

In California, local contests showed the growth of the Union Labor and Socialist parties in cities.

The general results of the 1911 elections indicate, not so much any desperate plight of either party nationally, as a general trend toward independence of thought and action, and freedom from party labels.

As to New Mexico, the "back country" will settle the election, and it will be several days before the result will become known with certainty. Confident reports of Democratic success have been made a great many times in the past, only to be proved in error when the full count came in. The state will surely be very close, and the plurality of the winners will perhaps not exceed a few hundred. The Republicans had prepared the public mind in advance for this showing of seeming defeat, when they virtually conceded that most of the cities would go Democratic, and that the normally Democratic counties would pile up pluralities above the average. There was considerable interest nationally in the New Mexico result, due to the resulting choice of two senators and two congressmen.

The morning "official organ of the city" says editorially that the suggestion for a thorough audit of the city's books is merely an attempt to "despoil and dishonor" the city administration. Why should an examination of the books "dishonor" the city administration? Are things in such a bad way then, that they must be kept dark in order to save somebody's "honor" from spoliation? A mad suggestion, in very truth, to come from the "official organ." Mayor Kelly wants a thorough audit—he says so. The "official organ" is making frantic efforts to prevent a thorough audit such as the mayor says he wants. The question is, Who is behind the efforts of the "official organ" to thwart the mayor's declared purpose in this matter?

El Paso's Milk Supply

A DEPARTMENT of the city government that is doing good work in the public service is the public health board. Especially notable is the work of the board in bacteriological examinations of the city's milk supply, and sanitary inspections in connection with this work. A very large proportion of sickness in cities is caused by impure milk; it is one of the greatest problems of metropolitan life. Care for the milk supply is one of the most economical undertakings of any local government, for pure milk means healthy people and a reduced death rate, especially among infants.

A bulletin just published by the El Paso health board for the public information gives in detail the facts about the various dairies of the city and their product. The presence of "bacteria" in milk in moderate numbers is in itself not a sign of impurity of harmful quality; on the contrary, science recognizes many species of beneficial workers among the so-called "bacteria," which are microscopic vegetable growths. The majority of bacteria are "scavengers," the purifiers and renewers of the growing world; but some are producers of disease, notably the bacteria of typhoid, dysentery, and cholera. Long and arduous scientific study and experiment have resulted in establishing a milk standard in all civilized countries where the science of disease prevention and health conservation are highly developed. Milk falling below that standard is condemned as unfit for human consumption.

In El Paso, milk to be accepted as standard shall contain no more than 100,000 bacteria per cubic centimeter, and it must have at least 3.4 percent of butter fat, and 12 percent total solids. The tables, containing the records of nearly 50 dairies as determined on bacteriological examination of their products, show some remarkable facts. They show that all but 13 or 14 dairies are within the city's requirements as to butter fat and solids, but when it comes to the bacteria count, the story is different. It has been explained that while the presence of bacteria in number less than 100,000 per cubic centimeter is regarded as harmless to health under normal conditions, the presence of a greater number is deemed sufficient ground for condemnation of the product. And it follows that a low bacterial count is much better than a high bacterial count, even though the high count be still within the standard.

In the list of local dairies we find one dairy that has a bacterial count of only 6000, when the city standard allows 100,000; this dairy must certainly be a model of cleanliness and efficiency in handling milk, for the record is almost perfect. Then we find two more running under 20,000, 11 in all that run under 40,000, 21 that are over 50,000 but under 100,000. And as we follow the list down we find one dairy that runs up a count of 1,600,000 bacteria to the cubic centimeter, or 16 times as many as the maximum allowance under the city standard, and 270 times as many as the best dairy in the list. Another runs to 500,000, another to 300,000, and another to 250,000. The effort of the health board is to clean up these unsanitary and dangerous places, or put them out of business.

It is a curious sidelight on milk quality, that the same dairy that gives a bacterial count of 1,600,000 to the cubic centimeter, ranks right next to the top of the entire list, second in a list of nearly 50, with its high percentage of butter fat. It is a goat dairy kept by a Mexican. The fact just cited shows how little can be told of the quality and healthfulness of milk, by the amount of cream that rises in the bottle.

It is a great work the health board is doing, and it deserves the earnest cooperation of every citizen. If any person wants to know if the milk from his particular dairy is safe, and if so, how it compares with other dairies' products, let him call up the city health officer for the information, or ask for a copy of the published circular.

EDITORIAL AND MAGAZINE PAGE

UNCLE WALT'S Denatured Poem

HE USED to take a drink of whisky when he was feeling gay and frisky; and when his health was out of plumb, he tried to heal himself with rum. In fiery days of mid-July, he tried to cool himself with rum; when winter storms began to toot, he warmed himself with rum. When children came to cheer him home, from tankards tall he blew the foam, and when friends died he tried to drown his grief by pouring balm down. Whatsoever the cause or event, it called for Spiritus Frumenti. And when this pecked guy was dead in that old town he painted red, his poor, sad, weary heart beat faint must put a mortgage on the cow to buy a mistle loaf of pine in which her old man might recline. And while they laid the stiff away out in the churchyard, cold and gray, the men who kept the grog saloons, with diamonds on them in festoons, were selling booze to other clumps, who took it for the doleful dumps, to keep them cool, to keep them warm, to shield them from the wintry storm, for any reason or excuse a foolish mortal can produce.

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The Daily Horoscope

By T. K. Hedrick

"The Gink Says:"

(November 8-9)



Mars and the moon are in conjunction today, in Gemini, and that spells war. The battles, however, that will take place shall not be between nation and nation, nor men and men, but between the forces of good and evil in every nature. Temptations to do wrong will arise on every hand, and must be steadfastly resisted for the sake of future peace. And these temptations will be cunningly masked, and argue with clever sophistry for their worth. The sins most to be combated will be those of omissions; the "let-alone" kind; the closing of the eyes to obvious duty. These are the kinds of sin that permit public and private abuses to go unchecked. They are the sins of the shirker and evader, and are a great source of profit to people who are anxious to get money, and are not particular as to means. But the penalties for them are peculiarly heavy, as they involve moral cowardice as well as cupidity. Lucky is he who withstands the temptations of the day! He will be stronger and happier thereafter.

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The Wreck of Express No. 10

BY OURNOSKEY.

The Herald's Daily Short Story

AS the train approached Pont ar Nense, Robert Glaslain regretted for the twentieth time during the last three hours that he did not understand Russian. Not that he felt any desire to read Tolstoy or Gorki in the original language, for his position as editor of the sporting paper "La Becane" left him very little time for literary studies, but he would have liked to have known what kind of bad names a couple sitting opposite him were calling one another. The man was bald-headed and uninteresting, while the woman was a perfect beauty, full of life and with a pair of most dangerous eyes. They had entered the compartment wrapped up in his traveling rug, he pretended to be reading very attentively a newspaper which he held so that he just could get an occasional glimpse of his fellow travelers, who were talking and gestulating furiously.

"There is no doubt but that they are husband and wife but they would not carry on like that," he thought. They have been quarreling since four o'clock this afternoon. Once I almost thought he was going to box her ears. It is a good thing for him that I don't speak their lingo or I would have told him just what I think of him. Good Lord, I bet he is at least 25 years older than she. Poor creature! She has been married soon enough. It is surprising how often you find that the most charming women have the most repulsive husbands.

The young man was rapidly losing himself in the wilderness of her thoughts when the waiter of the dining car entered to ask the travelers whether they wanted to eat at first or second table.

"First table for madame and myself," said the stranger in excellent French, without the slightest accent.

"And you, Monsieur Glaslain?" the waiter asked.

Robert, who was known to all the men on the train, traveling as he did twice a week between Paris and Brussels, replied in his jovial way:

"Thank you, Baptiste, I shall not eat until I get to Paris. I don't feel too heavily at Brussels and am afraid of a catastrophe."

He had scarcely pronounced these words when he thought he read in the features of the young wife an expression of the sincerest gratitude.

"Way the devil go!" he exclaimed at me so," he asked himself. "Have I perhaps—"

Glaslain knew himself to be very good looking, but he was not conceited enough to think that a woman would fall in love with him on the spot merely for that reason. A single word, however, any other impression, however, for when her husband stood up to take something from a satchel on the shelf above their heads, he saw the well-known sent Robert a glance that set his heart thumping.

"How am I to manage to see her alone?" he asked himself.

He thought of a thousand impossible schemes, but the lady herself, of course, and the only natural one.

When her husband arose to go to the dining car, she refused to go with him. A violent quarrel followed and, without understanding a single word, Robert still understood that she pleaded some sudden indisposition. The husband hesitated long before leaving his wife alone with a handsome stranger, but at last went out scolding and shuffling his shoulders.

He had barely closed the door behind him when the lady turned toward Robert, took both his hands and said in French:

"You have saved my life! I shall never forget that! No matter what you ask of me I am ready to give it to you."

Glaslain was speechless with surprise and the young lady went on:

"It is going to happen right away, and it is yours."

Really, madame, I don't understand what you mean."

Oh, yes, you understand very well. I need not tell you that I am countless Ocranoff and that my husband has been sentenced to death by yours."

"Of course you do. You knew everything. You know that in a few moments, a few seconds perhaps, some terrible catastrophe is going to happen and you came into our compartment to warn me. I understood everything as soon as you said the word 'catastrophe.' You can't deny I am telling the truth."

Glaslain began to suspect that the woman must be insane. He decided to laugh.

"Believe me, madame," he said, "the word catastrophe did not have the meaning you suppose."

Countess Ocranoff shook her head gently. "Oh, I know very well you will never admit it," she said. "Why did you not warn your husband not to enter the dining car when you knew so much more than I and have a presentiment that some catastrophe is going to happen?"

"Because I hate him, because they forced me to marry him against my will, because I hope that this accident will set me free. I know very well you must despise me. And still you belong to those who do not hesitate to commit crime in order to help a just cause."

Glaslain tried to protest, but the young woman went on:

"If you only knew! My whole life during the first five years has been a martyrdom. I was sold in the most atrocious manner. My parents paid 5,000,000 francs for me. I know very well you must despise me. And still you belong to those who do not hesitate to commit crime in order to help a just cause."

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